

Shaw & Associates

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Age: 38

Law School: Chicago-Kent College of Law

Practice Areas: Civil Litigation: Commercial, Torts, Probate, Civil Rights and Family Law



Anne I. Shaw

Anne Shaw has dedicated herself both to her clients and to her community. In the courtroom, she has achieved a string of positive verdicts and settlements for her clients, having garnered an impressive enough record to justify opening her own practice with two offices.

Outside the courtroom, she has worked tirelessly to increase access to the justice system for those with limited incomes and opportunities. She has also volunteered countless hours to the Asian American Bar Association of Greater Chicago, in the hopes of drawing more Asian Americans to the field of law and to support fellow Asian American attorneys.

Because of this, Shaw has become one of the most respected attorneys in Chicago.

"Personally, Anne is one of the most genuine and honest members of our profession and the community at large," said Maria Kuriakos Ciesil, an associate judge with the First Municipal Division of the Circuit Court of Cook County. "Anne fights for justice. She does not cave to any pressure that dissuades from taking the right path."

Shaw began her career in civil rights litigation. Her first case was a race-discrimination matter that involved a major food and entertainment chain. Shaw successfully litigated that case, which settled on the eve

of a federal jury trial, giving her client a top settlement.

Shaw's second case was one of Illinois' first ADA/FMLA cases. It involved a woman who developed carpal tunnel syndrome at her factory job during the course of her 11 year career. Company officials refused to either accommodate her condition or give her the federally mandated 12 weeks of leave. Shaw not only earned her client a sizable monetary settlement, she also helped change the practices at her client's company.

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Since then, Shaw has continued prosecuting civil rights cases on behalf of individuals who have been disenfranchised and discriminated against. Currently, she is working on an age-discrimination case against the government of Taiwan, and recently settled a case on behalf of a woman who was sexually harassed at her place of employment and then discharged after filing a complaint.

After achieving several significant

legal victories, Shaw in 2003 opened her own law firm, Chicago's Shaw & Associates. Even in doing this, her peers say, Shaw was working on behalf of others.

"Anne decided to not only open her own practice, but to create a practice that would serve the most under-represented population in the legal market, small businesses, the middle class and those with incomes just a bit too high to qualify for legal aid or pro bono services, but not high enough to afford the services of traditional law firms," said Jessica Arong O'Brien, with the Illinois Department of Revenue.

One year after opening her first office, Shaw opened a second. Today, she employs two full-time attorneys, a support staff and law clerks.

Shaw's peers also praise her for the work she has turned in for the Asian American Bar Association. During her career, Shaw has held several positions at the association, culminating in her rise to president in 2007. During her time as president, Shaw chaired the association's successful 20th Anniversary Celebration, an event that raised more than \$50,000. *

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